아크로드
ARCHLORD

5

박진환

영 코믹스
364

아크로드 5

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그 깊은 곳에 잠이 든 그는,
먼 옛날 세계를 두려움에 떨게 했던
대마법사 서리프스!

그리고, 오늘…
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그를 흔들어 깨운다!!

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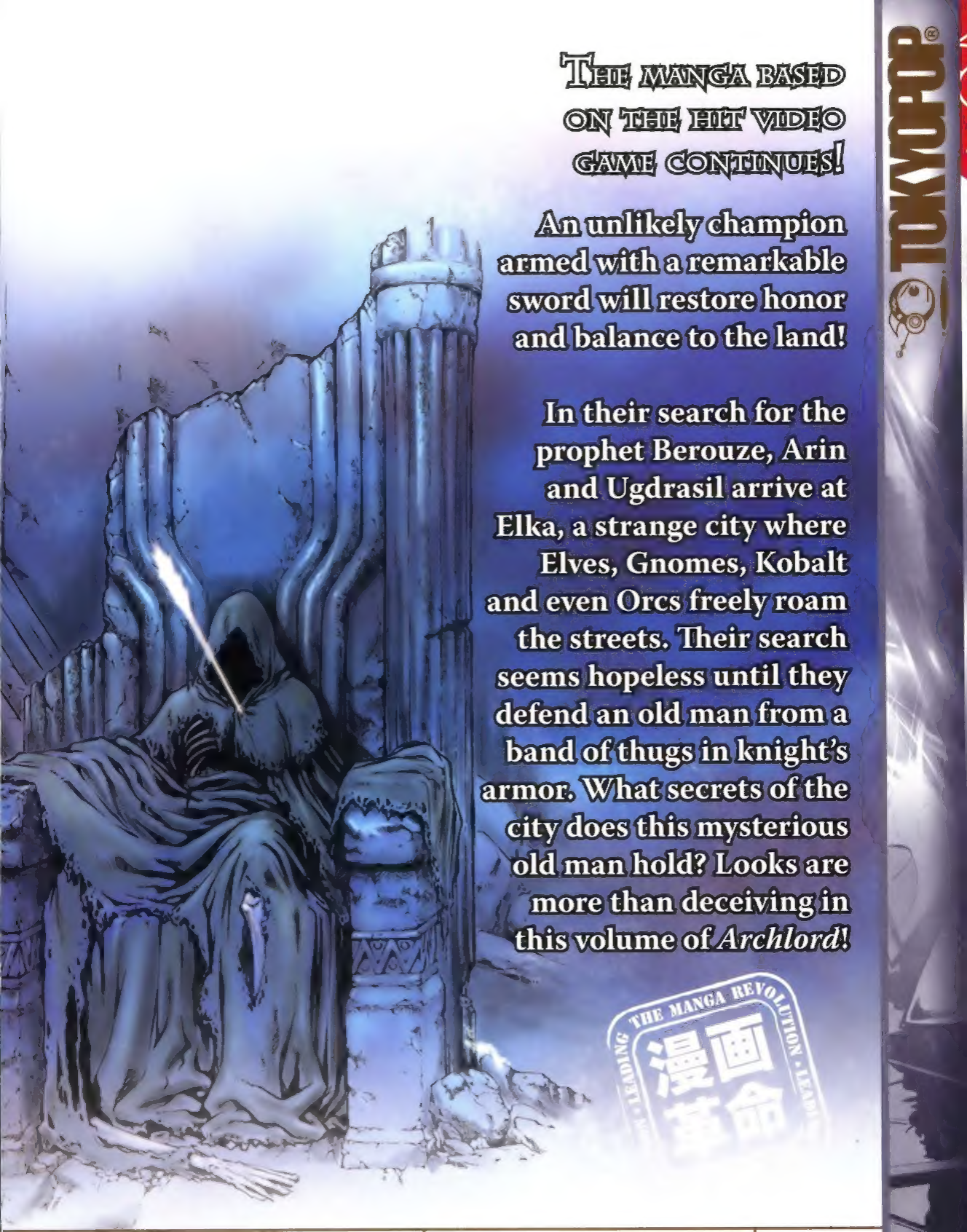

THE MANGA BASED ON THE HIT VIDEO GAME CONTINUES!

An unlikely champion armed with a remarkable sword will restore honor and balance to the land!

In their search for the prophet Berouze, Arin and Ugdrasil arrive at Elka, a strange city where Elves, Gnomes, Kobalt and even Orcs freely roam the streets. Their search seems hopeless until they defend an old man from a band of thugs in knight's armor. What secrets of the city does this mysterious old man hold? Looks are more than deceiving in this volume of *Archlord*!

LEADING THE MANGA REVOLUTION
漫画
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Archlord History – The Chronicles of Chantra

Long ago, the Elementals infused their power into the very stones of the continent of Chantra, creating a land of magic and mystery whispered about in legends around the world. The most seductive story was that five of the gemstones – Archons – bestowed unimaginable power upon their bearers. Adventurers from many lands sought to make this power their own – including humans and Orcs from the western continent. But though they were in a new land, they brought their old racial hatreds with them.

Two heroes emerged in Chantra around the year 7 BD – the human warrior Nathan and the Orc magician Walcure. Both set out on their own quests to find the Archons. Their paths crossed in the heat of the Windrill desert as they searched for ancient ruins. Their instinctive hatred gripped them, and they launched into a fierce battle, magic against strength and steel, clashing for hours on end. But they were evenly matched, and finally, they collapsed from exhaustion. Recognizing each other as formidable fighters, both worthy of respect, they shared their water and formed a lasting friendship.

Together they continued the quest for the Archons, finally finding the old ruins. The tumbled rock and broken roads of the ancient city were not entirely abandoned, however. Destiny had one final trial for them. As they explored the remains of the city, they discovered a great hall. Wandering deep into it, they saw before them a throne richly decorated with carvings of warriors in fierce battle. As they stood there marveling, a man stepped from behind the throne. He was dressed in armor matching the carvings, and he raised a menacing sword. This was Salamander, the last remaining guardian of this once amazing city. He was left by the ancients to defend their treasures to the end. He launched into a ferocious attack. It took the skill of both heroes to defeat the great Salamander.

As the mighty warrior fell, a huge door at the rear of the hall slid back revealing two incredible weapons. Both carried an Archon infused with primordial Elemental power. The sword held the Archon of Fire, the staff held the Archon of Earth. Moving forward, each claimed one – Nathan chose the sword, and Walcure took the staff.

With their adventure finished, they knew it was time to return to their own people. As the battle brothers parted ways, they lifted a ring from the fallen Salamander and split it between them as a reminder of their shared journey and newfound allegiance to each other.

Nathan earned a reputation as a righteous warrior and built a great castle on Chantra called Manas. Walcure came to be called the greatest magician in all of Orc history. Countless tales of their achievements were told for generations, and over time, even their weapons took on names of their own. Nathan's sword became known as Drumhart, while Walcure's staff acquired the name Gaiahon. But the most important event of their lives would happen six years later.

One night six years later, Nathan and Walcure were both awakened by an eerie sound – a wailing cry only they could hear. It seemed to come from their magical weapons. Mystified, they both traveled to Serend to consult Gracia, a wise archer of the Moon elves. They arrived at the same time, and Gracia knew why they had come. Her own bow, Evensarda, contained two Archons and was also wailing. She explained that a magician called Cyripus had gained an Archon of his own and was calling the weapons – trying to unite all the powers of the Elementals in one person. Trying to become an Archlord.

With all five Archons, Cyripus would be nearly invincible, and the three heroes knew that one person could not be trusted with such enormous powers. Nathan, Walcure and Gracia banded together to find Cyripus and defeat him. At last, they confronted him, and a battle ensued in the same ancient, desert ruins where Walcure and Nathan had gained their Archons. All three fought tirelessly, but finally, it was the moon elf Gracia who took down Cyripus with her bow. It cost her a deep wound from his magic, but the heroes triumphed. They had no respect for the power-hungry magician, so they abandoned the body in the ruins, Gracia's arrows still piercing Cyripus' chest. Afraid of being tempted by the power of five united Archons, the heroes decided to hide the one they gained from Cyripus. At the time, a great city named Dulan was being constructed – at its heart stood a mighty castle. Together they buried the final Archon under the castle's foundation stone and sealed it with magic.

The secret of its resting place was never revealed, but Nathan had witnessed the full extent of the power of the Archon, and he became cautious of the Archon inside Drumhart. He asked the Gnomes to craft a magical scabbard, which would seal in the power of the sword as long as it was sheathed. From then on, he drew his weapon only when absolutely necessary, and strong cautions were handed down as the sword passed on through generations of his descendants.

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ARCHLORD

Episode 34
Long Awaited Arrivals

WE ARE HERE.
THAT IS SHINEWOOD, THE OLDEST TREE IN CHANTRA. BUILT BETWEEN ITS ROOTS AND BRANCHES IS THE ANCIENT CITY WE SEEK...
...ELKA.

MY WORD!
I CANNOT SEE THE TOP!
GRACIOUS...
...ELVES, GNOMES... EVEN ORCS!
EVERY RACE ON THE CONTINENT SEEMS TO BE WANDERING ABOUT HERE.

DON'T SOUND SO SHOCKED...

OH!
I-I'M SORRY! I DIDN'T MEAN...

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YOUNG LADY.
!!

H-HOW CAN ORCS... BE... UM...

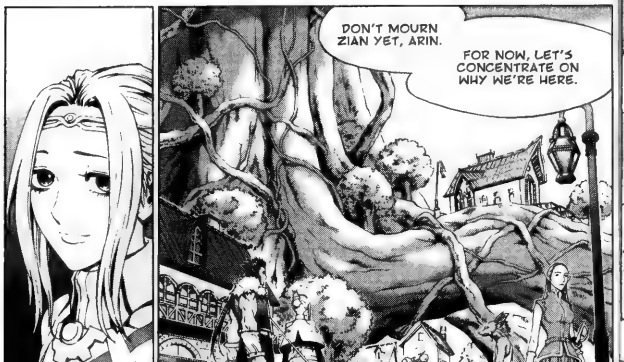
ELKA IS OPEN TO EVERYONE...

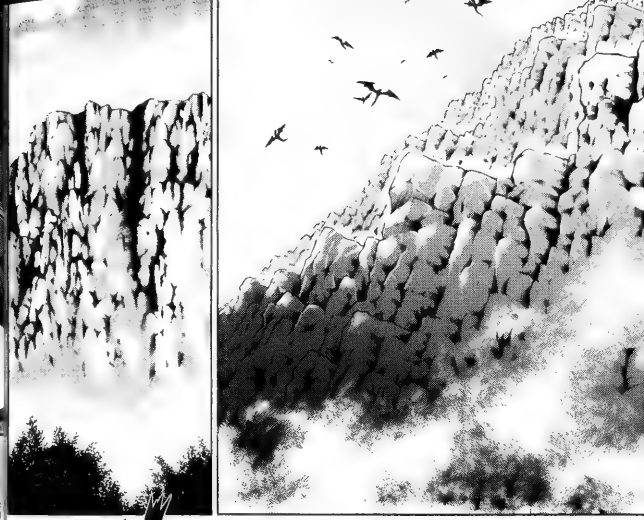
ALL RACES GATHER HERE TO TRADE.
THUS, ALL KINDS OF RARE AND EXOTIC GOODS ARE AVAILABLE IN THIS PLACE.
THIS CITY IS A NEUTRAL ZONE... INTERRACIAL FIGHTING IS PROHIBITED.

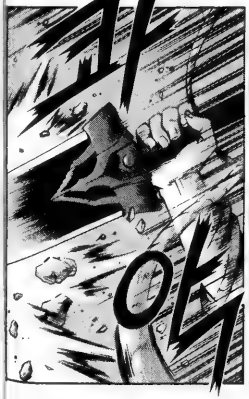
MEANING...
...THERE IS ALWAYS PEACE HERE?
ONLY A TEMPORARY PEACE... BUT YES. PEACE WITHIN THESE BORDERS.
FOR TRADE TO EXIST, PEACE IS A NECESSITY. HERE IN ELKA, STRANGE ALLIANCES ARE MADE.

I ONLY WISH...
...WE ALL COULD HAVE MADE IT HERE...
...TOGETHER...
I BELIEVE...
...HE IS STILL ALIVE.
ALTHOUGH ZIAN ALWAYS PLAYS THE JOKER, NEVER SERIOUS...
...WITHIN HIM IS SOMETHING HARD... SOMETHING UNCONQUERABLE. HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY.

ONCE, AS BOYS, WE FACED A DIRE WOLF.
UNTRIED AS WE WERE, WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE FACED DOWN SUCH A MONSTER. WE SHOULD HAVE PRAYED AND RUN.
BUT ZIAN... HE KEPT ATTACKING. THOUGH HIS BONES WERE BROKEN, HIS OWN BLOOD WETTING HIS SKIN, HE WOULD NOT RELENT.
IN THE END, WE SLEW THE BEAST TOGETHER.


DON'T MOURN ZIAN YET, ARIN.
FOR NOW, LET'S CONCENTRATE ON WHY WE'RE HERE.




야!

HAHH...
HAHH...
THIS IS EXHAUSTING!
SKREEEE!

YEAH! COME FOR ME!!
KREEAORR!
YAAAAAAH!
SKRAEE!!

SKREEoR!!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY YOU'RE GETTING RID OF ME! TAKE ME TO THE TOP!!
SKRAAR!

YOUR HUMAN BOY DISGUISES ME... HIS AURA IS TRANSMUTED.
WHY WOULD HE REFUSE YOUR ASSISTANCE?

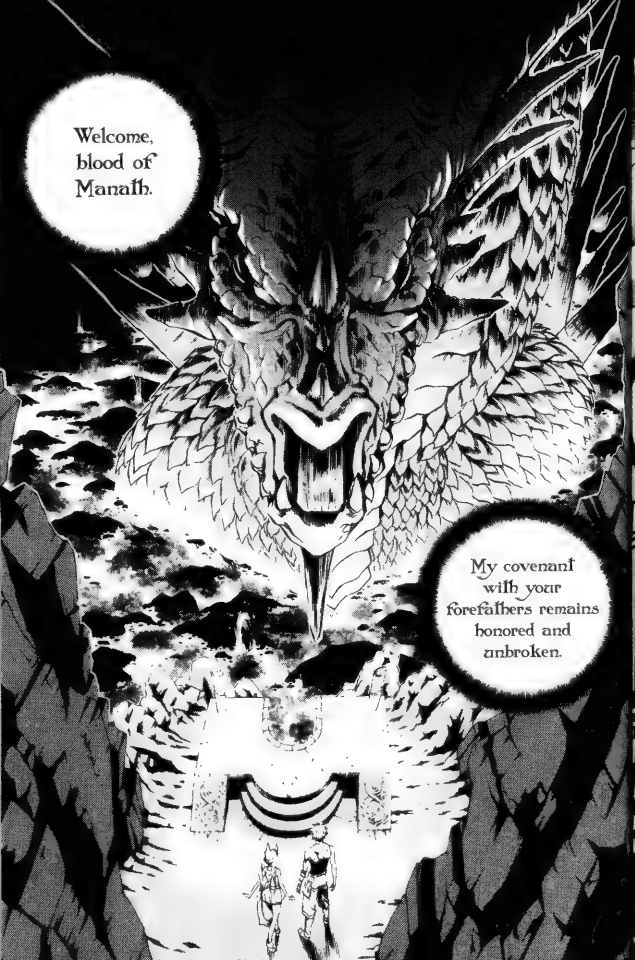
아아아아
HUNGH!
HUNGH!

Ba-bum
BLAAAUGH!
ZIAN!
Ba-bum
Ba-bum
I CAN... H-H--
...HEAR IT...
ITS HEART... B-BEATING...

THE SOUND...
...IT'S CALLING ME...

HEH HEH. I TOLD YOU I COULD FIND MY OWN WAY UP HERE!

THE MASTER, RUME TRAVAL, AWAITS YOU.


Welcome, blood of Manath.
My covenant with your forefathers remains honored and unbroken.

"MANATH"?! YOU MESSING WITH ME?
WHAT'S "MANATH"? SNACK FOOD FOR BIG UGLY DRAGONS?
ES-PECIALLY... BIG!
Evil broods over Chantra, hatching ruin in the shadows.
The time for Brambart to serve its master has returned.

Episode 35
Legends Returned
끄아
아악

That blade...
...holds the Archon of Fire.
You wield Bramhart!
...
FOOOOO
WHAT?
YOU CALLED ME UP HERE TO UNLOAD YOUR USELESS ANTIQUE JUNK ON ME?
E/O
I DON'T NEED THIS THING!
Thing?
That relic contains a piece of Ganfra's soul.
OH, SHUT UP, DRAGON!
YOU'RE STARTING TO GET ON MY LAST NERVE!
I DON'T WANT IT!!
THIS BEAUTY HERE IS ALL THE SWORD I NEED!!
AND I SURE AS HELL DON'T NEED AN OVERGROWN LIZARD TELLING ME WHAT TO DO!
LET'S GO, NAIL.
You would refuse the honor of your bequest, heir of Manalh? Know that many a hero the world over...
...covets the terrible might Bramhart imbues within its wielder!

OOH, WOW. MUST BE NICE, THEN. EVERYONE WANTS IT, HUH?
!!
WHY DON'T YOU PASS IT OFF TO ONE OF THOSE GUYS, THEN?
Your sword ...
?
You disdain Brambart...
...in favor of that trinket you carry?
!!
YOU!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
Child of Manath!
You endanger the future with your pig-headedness!!
Heed the wisdom of your betters before you—!

STUFF IT!!
EH?
I'M GONNA KILL YOU WITH MY BARE HANDS!
!!

?!
ZIAN!
STOP IT, DRAGON!!
YEEEK!
Fool!

If not for the sacred pact I made with your ancestor of old...
...I would not suffer your petulance! You dishonor your line!
Your father died that you might live for this day...
Was the sacrifice of his life worth so little to you, paler?!
TRY SAYING THAT TO ME AGAIN...!
HEY, RUME TRAVAL!
WHA... WHAT WAS THAT?
쿠우우우우
쩌렁
쩌렁

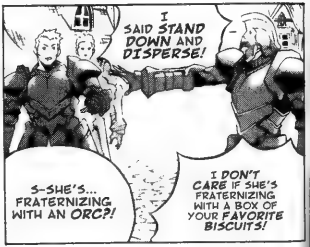
IT SEEMS THAT NOT A SINGLE PERSON HERE HAS HEARD THE NAME "BEROUZE" ...
I DIDN'T THINK IT'D BE THIS DIFFICULT TO FIND HIM.
OUT OF MY WAY!
WHAT ARE KNIGHTS DOING HERE?
우르르

LOOKS LIKE THE RUMOR ABOUT THE KING COMING HERE MIGHT BE TRUE.
WHAT? HE'S COMING THROUGH HERE?
A LOT OF HUMANS ARE GATHERING HERE. WE MUST WATCH OURSELVES.
WHEREVER HUMANS GO, TROUBLE IS SURE TO FOLLOW.
OH!
I, UH... I DIDN'T MEAN...
OOOF!!
콰당

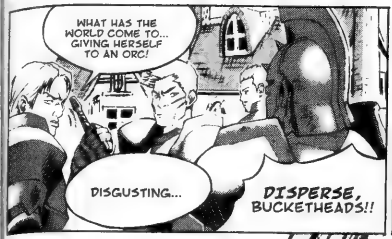
WHAT WAS THAT, GRANDPA?!
OOH...
SAY IT AGAIN! YOU HOPE WHAT?!
HOPE WE "FALL OFF A CLIFF," HUH?! RIGHT?!
HOW DARE YOU, SIR?!
HE'S ONLY AN OLD MAN!
WHAT IS THIS?
HAH! LOOK AT THAT!
WHAT A PRETTY LITTLE GIRL...
SHE'S NOT HALF BAD!
OK, SWEETHEART. HOW ABOUT WE LEAVE THE CODGER ALONE? COME WITH US... WE'LL SHOW YOU A GOOD TIME.
HEH HEH...
YOU AND ME--
WHA--?! AN ORC!!
GET HIM!!

HALT! STAND DOWN!! UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF ELKA'S LAWS, I ORDER YOU TO CEASE ALL HOSTILITIES AND DISPERSE!
I REMIND YOU THAT IN ELKA, TO ENGAGE IN HOSTILITIES IN DEFIANCE OF A DIRECT ORDER IS PUNISHABLE BY DEATH!

LET ME HELP YOU UP, SIR.
OOH...


I SAID STAND DOWN AND DISPERSE!
S-SHE'S... FRATERNIZING WITH AN ORC?!
I DON'T CARE IF SHE'S FRATERNIZING WITH A BOX OF YOUR FAVORITE BISCUITS!

DAMMIT. WHAT A FILTHY BITCH!


WHAT HAS THE WORLD COME TO... GIVING HERSELF TO AN ORC!
DISGUSTING...
DISPERSE, BUCKETHEADS!!

SHE HAS NO RESPECT... NO CONCEPT... OF WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING FOR.

EVERY DAY WE PUT OUR NECKS ON THE LINE. WE FIGHT THESE ORCS SO SHE CAN BE FREE. SHE USES HER FREEDOM...
...TO BE AN ORC'S WHORE.
KAH-RAKK!!

AAAAGGHH!
YOU SON OF A--!
NOW YOU DIE!

OOH...
BAGRONK...
I APOLOGIZE, ARIN... I--
...
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

YOU KNOW HUMANS... ALWAYS CAUSING TROUBLE!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?
ACK!! YOU OLD GOAT!!
OOH... EASE MY PAIN, GIRLY!
꾸이!
WHAT SAY YOU? I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW YOU MY, AH, GRATITUDE...
WHAT SAY WE SLIP OVER TO MY PLACE FOR SOME HOT TEA...
LET'S GO.
W-WAIT... FOR ME...
FROM THE LOOK OF YOU, IT IS YOUR FIRST TIME HERE...
I WOULD LIKE TO REPAY YOU FOR YOUR MANY KINDNESSES ON MY BEHALF. YOU NOBLY STOOD AGAINST THE KNIGHTS, AND... AH...
...WOULD YOU PRY ME OFF THIS WALL?
I KNOW THIS PLACE LIKE THE INSIDE OF MY EYELIDS...
THIS IS YOUR HOME?!
TRUE, THE VIEW FROM THE OUTSIDE TO THE INSIDE IS QUITE HUMBLE, BUT I ASSURE YOU, AH, THE VIEW FROM THE INSIDE TO THE OUTSIDE IS SECOND TO NONE!

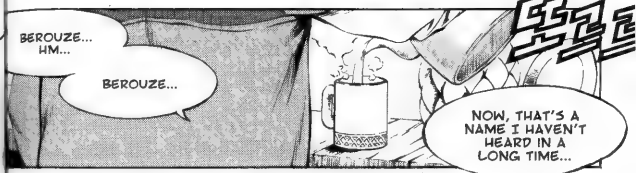
달그락
THIS SHALL WARM YOUR, AH, COCKLES.

GOODNESS! THIS TEA IS WONDERFUL!

IT SHOULD BE! IT'S BREWED FROM THE CHOICEST TOAD FLAKES! THE FINEST TOADS FROM THE AREA ARE HUNTED, AND THEN ONLY THE SAVORY SKIN FROM THEIR BACKS IS HARVESTED, DRIED IN THE WARM SUN...
...
HA HA!... YOU'RE JOKING... RIGHT?

ERM... HM... WHAT BROUGHT YOU TRAVELERS TO ELKA?

WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE.
HIS NAME IS BEROUZE. HE'S SAID TO BE A PROPHET.


BEROUZE... HM...
BEROUZE...
NOW, THAT'S A NAME I HAVEN'T HEARD IN A LONG TIME...

Y-YOU KNOW HIM? HE'S NOT DEAD, IS HE?!

HRM... WELL, AH... HMM...

MEMORIES, AT MY AGE...
...CAN CLOUD UP, YOU SEE...

PERHAPS I AM SIMPLY TOO TENSE FROM TODAY'S EXCITEMENT. I FEEL CERTAIN IF I COULD RELAX, SOMEHOW... YES.
A NICE, SENSUAL... EROTIC MASSAGE WOULD DO THE TRICK. I AM SURE MY, AH, MEMORIES WOULD POP RIGHT UP...

TWO MORE, AH, GUESTS ARE ABOUT TO ARRIVE.
WHAT'S THIS? YOU ALREADY HAVE COMPANY?
TORTURE SOMETIMES WORKS, TOO....
OH MY. YOU ARE A HEALTHY GAL!
BUT REGRETTABLY, I AM OBLIGED TO SET THIS TOPIC OF CONVERSATION ASIDE AWHILE...

Episode 36
Street Fighter

Ba-bum
Ba-bum
Sniff
Sniff
THE SMELL...
THERE'S AN ANIMAL STENCH ABOUT YOUR PLACE, OLD TIMER.
APOLOGIES, YOUNG ONES.
WILL YOU EXCUSE US FOR A MOMENT?

ESCORT ME OUT.

PHEW!
FINALLY, I CAN BREATHE AGAIN...
RETURN TO YOUR HOMELAND, BIG FELLA.
THEY HAVE NEED OF YOU THERE...
THERE IS MUCH YOU MUST DO FOR YOUR RACE...

AND YOU, YOUNG LADY...
...
NO... NEVER MIND... FOR NOW...
...
...

LADY ARIN? DID YOU BRING ME OUT HERE TO AVOID A FIGHT?
IF THAT MAN IS WHO I THINK HE IS... WE'RE REALLY IN THE BRIARS.
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE.
HUH? WHO ARE THEY?
IS THAT AN ORC??
YOU ARE RIGHT.
WE ARE... IN THE BRIARS. FOLLOW ME. MAYBE WE CAN WALK OUT.
DID YOU SAY...
...WITH AN ORC"?
웅성
웅성

HUH?!
YOU--!!
THAT'S THE ONE!!
UG... UG...
BRIARS! WE'RE IN THE BRIARS!
GET HIM!
YAAAH!
IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME...
...MY OLD FRIEND...

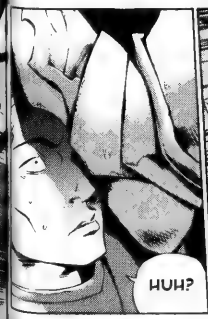
VISHUNEL! WHAT IS THAT RACKET?
HIS HEAD IS MINE!!

A FIGHT HAS BROKEN OUT BETWEEN OUR REGIMENT AND THE ORC.

HYAAAA!

Yaa gh!

!!

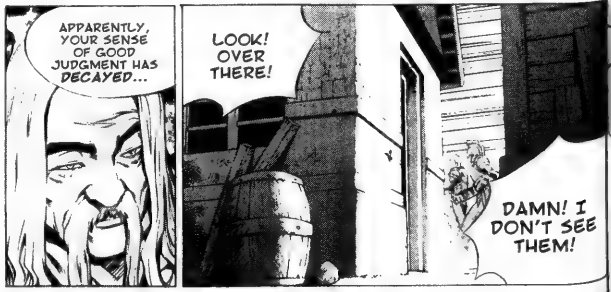

HUH?

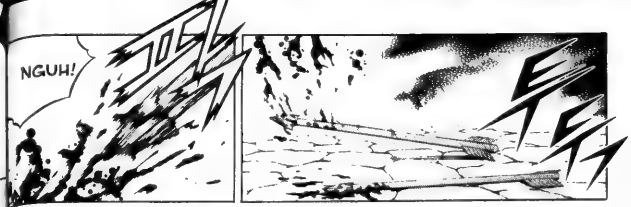
GUAH!

GOD'S BLOOD, THEY'RE GETTING AWAY! STOP THEM!
EWAN... YES. MMM... BEEN A WHILE.
WOULD YOU CARE FOR A HOT BEVERAGE?
I HAVE THE MOST EXQUISITE TOAD-FLAKE TEA...
CROSSBOWMEN! AIM AND FIRE TO KILL!
피피피피

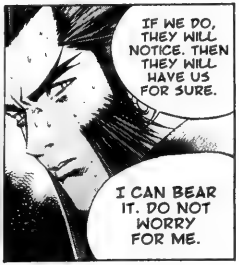
피피피
A BOOK WRITTEN BY, AH... SPIRITS?
LET'S NOT DISSEMBLE... YOU KEEP IT SECRETED AMONG YOUR SCROLLS...
...A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF, WELL, CERTAIN EVENTS OF 500 YEARS AGO...
WE'D LIKE A LOOK AT IT... ON AUTHORITY OF THE KING, OF COURSE.

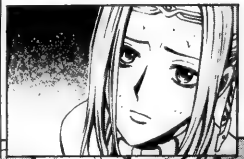
SURELY, YOU AREN'T PLANNING ON DUSTING OFF THAT OLD DEMON... ARE YOU?
WHERE ARE THEY?!
FIND THEM!
YOU HAVE LIVED TOO LONG, MY FRIEND...

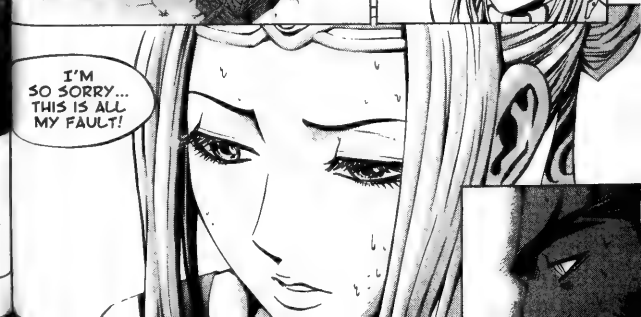

APPARENTLY, YOUR SENSE OF GOOD JUDGMENT HAS DECAYED...
LOOK! OVER THERE!
DAMN! I DON'T SEE THEM!

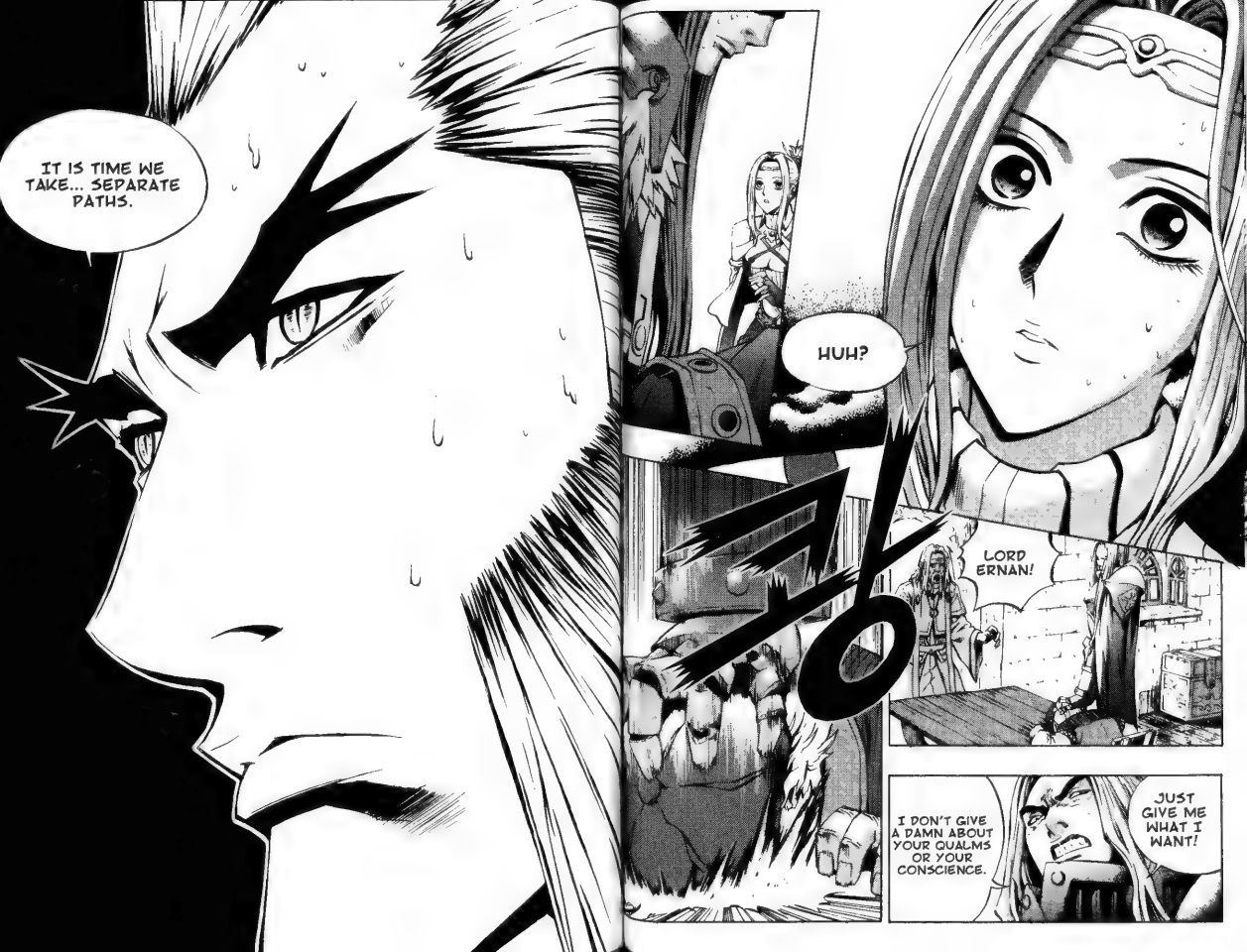

NGUH!

HUHHA...
HUHHAH...
OH DEAR... WE NEED TO USE A HEALING SPELL RIGHT AWAY!

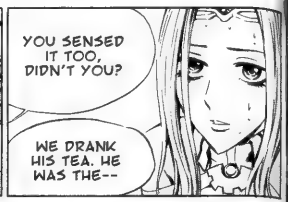

IF WE DO, THEY WILL NOTICE. THEN THEY WILL HAVE US FOR SURE.
I CAN BEAR IT. DO NOT WORRY FOR ME.




I'M SO SORRY... THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!


IT IS TIME WE TAKE... SEPARATE PATHS.
HUH?
LORD ERNAN!
I DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT YOUR QUALMS OR YOUR CONSCIENCE.
JUST GIVE ME WHAT I WANT!

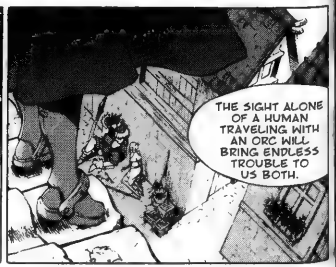
WE FOUND THE MAN WE WERE SEARCHING FOR.

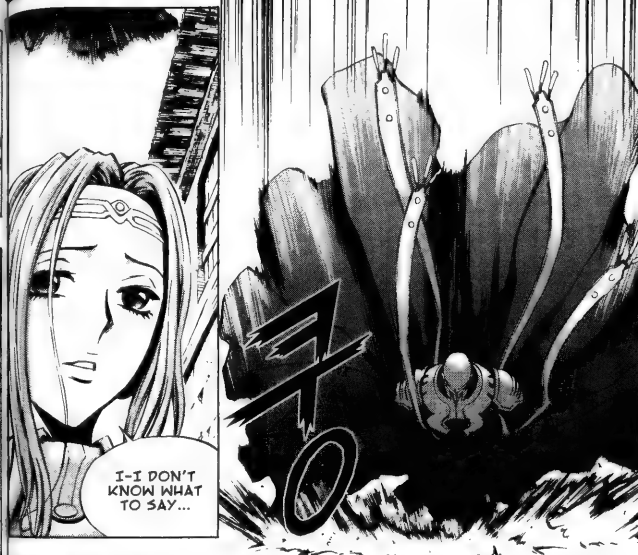

YOU SENSED IT TOO, DIDN'T YOU?
WE DRANK HIS TEA. HE WAS THE--

PROPHET BEROUZE! LOOK INTO YOUR FUTURE... IF YOU DON'T GIVE ME WHAT I WANT...

...WILL I HURT YOU AGAIN?
OH... OH YES...

YOU PUT YOURSELF AT RISK BY STAYING IN MY COMPANY...


THE SIGHT ALONE OF A HUMAN TRAVELING WITH AN ORC WILL BRING ENDLESS TROUBLE TO US BOTH.


I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...

!!

SO! MY EYES DID NOT DECEIVE ME AFTER ALL!

IT'S BEEN FAR TOO LONG...

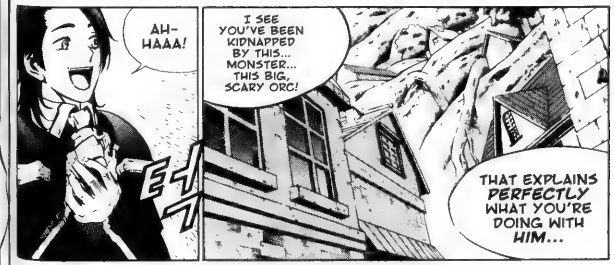
GREETINGS, LADY ARIN.

OH MY...

PRINCE CERION?

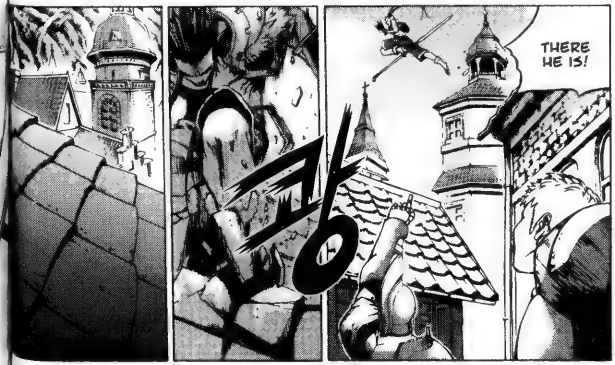
IT'S JUST SO UNEXPECTED! TO SEE THE DAUGHTER OF THE LORD OF DELPRAS...HERE!
AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT...

I ALREADY LOOKED DOWN THERE!
...YOU ARE BEING CHASED BY AN ENTIRE REGIMENT OF KNIGHTS!
WELL, THEY DIDN'T GO THE OTHER WAY!


AH-HAAA!
I SEE YOU'VE BEEN KIDNAPPED BY THIS... MONSTER... THIS BIG, SCARY ORC!
THAT EXPLAINS *PERFECTLY* WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH *HIM*...

N-NO! I'M TRAVELING WITH UGDRASIL OF MY OWN FREE--
NO MORE OF THAT!
ANYONE CAN SEE THAT YOUR LIFE WAS THREATENED.
IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE. YOU HAD NO CHOICE.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, UG?!
I WILL KEEP LADY ARIN SAFE. I STAKE MY NAME AND HONOR UPON IT.
HOWEVER... I CANNOT GUARANTEE YOUR SAFETY.
NOT AT ALL, SIRE! THAT'S NOT IT AT ALL!
YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S OBVIOUS. I WAS DRAGGING THIS HUMAN AROUND AGAINST HER WILL.
UG-DRASIL!

GANG-
WAY!
YEEK!


THERE
HE IS!

Episode 37
Street Fighter II

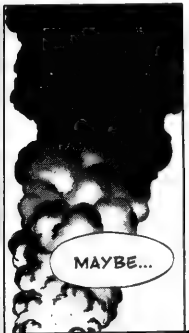
RRAGH!
HE'S DOWN! WE GOT HIM!
FINISH HIM OFF!
ka-boom!

UHH... UH-OH...
THIS ORC USES MAGIC!
WATCH IT, MEN! THIS IS NO USUAL ORC!
HUHHAH...
HUHHAH...

WHAT ARE THOSE IDIOTS UP TO...?

YOU SURE YOU GOT THE RIGHT BOOK?

YES, YES. A SPIRIT BOOK... RECOLLECTIONS OF THE DEAD. INCREDIBLY RARE.
THIS IS IT, ALL RIGHT.


MAYBE...

BUT SOMETHING FEELS WRONG.
BEROUZE HANDED OVER THE BOOK TOO EASILY.
HE SHOULD HAVE PUT UP MORE OF A FIGHT...
SOMETHING ABOUT THAT GEEZER... TOO CANNY BY HALF...
...

VISHUNEL, READY THE GEAR. WE HEAD FOR KUSKUT.
YES, MY LORD.
BELAY THAT. FIRST... SIGH...
...GO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR MEN.
KUHG...
COUGH!
COUGH!
HUHHAH...
HUHHAH...
THAT ORC IS AN ARMY OF ONE!
WE'RE KNIGHTS! HOW CAN HE STILL BE STANDING AGAINST US?!

HUHHAH...
HUHHAH...
STARTING... TO FEEL DIZZY...
HOW MUCH BLOOD HAVE I LOST?
...NOT MUCH MANA LEFT, EITHER.
GANG WAY! HERE COME THE HEAVY SHOCK TROOPS!
ㄱㄱㄱ

HTOLLAT!!!
NO! THE MAGIC SIGILS... THEY CARRY SHIELDS OF DISPEL!

GOOD HEAVENS...!
WHAT ARE THE SHOCK TROOPS DOING HERE?
Y-YOUR HIGHNESS!
IT'S NOT SAFE HERE! PLEASE, FIND SHELTER!!

GARGH!

AIIIK!

HE... HE... HE'S BEATING THE SHOCK TROOPS!
HE'S NOT REAL! HE'S SOME KIND OF DEMON!!

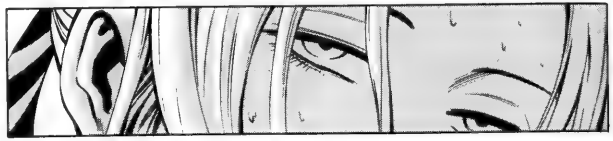
HUHHAH...
WHY...
HUHHAH...
HUHHAH...
...HAS SHE COME?
TOO-MUCH...
BE-TWEEN US...

IT'S TOO LATE, IN ANY CASE. YOU CAN'T TURN BACK THE TIDE.
GMPH?!
MMPH! LEMMEM GOMM!
HA HA HAAA! I GOT HIM!!
LOOK AT WHAT HE'S BECOME...
DO YOU PLAN TO MAKE TO MAKE YOURSELF AN ENEMY OF YOUR OWN RACE?
HE'S A SYMBOL TO THEM NOW...

THE GREAT FOE OF HUMANITY.
WHAT. WHAT.
HAVE I BECOME?

DON'T RISK IT ALONE...
EH
I MEAN, AREN'T WE COMRADES?
...
EH

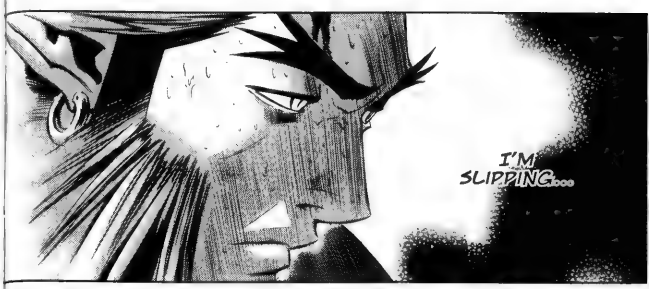
EH?

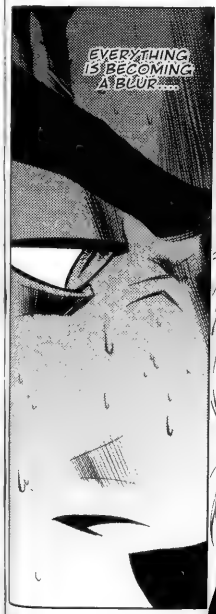


SHE TRULY IS SOMETHING...

LOOKS LIKE THE TRAGEDY IS IN ITS FINAL ACT OVER THERE...

WE OUGHT TO HEAD BACK TO BASE CAMP.

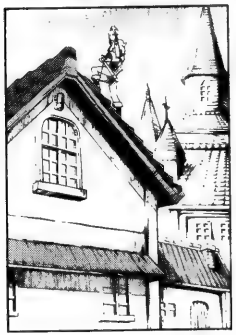

I'M SLIPPING....


EVERYTHING IS BECOMING A BLUR.....

"MY SWEET...
...SWEET CHILD."

NOW! YOU FINALLY DIE!!

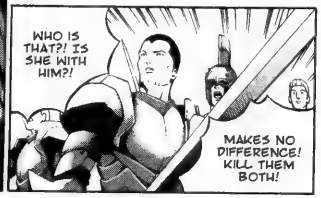
BA... BUH...
SNIPER! ON TOP OF THAT BUILDING!



HUMPH...
THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT.

GAIANA...?

YOU AREN'T ALLOWED TO DIE JUST YET, UGDRASIL. YOU HAVE A BIG SURPRISE COMING.


WHO IS THAT?! IS SHE WITH HIM?!
MAKES NO DIFFERENCE! KILL THEM BOTH!

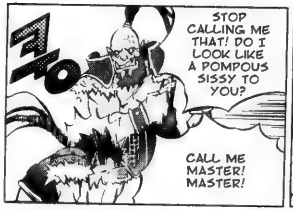
HE HAS JOURNEYED FAR TO SEE YOU. DYING WOULD BE RUDE.
?

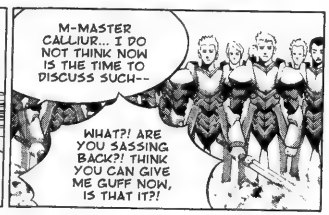
!!
I- IMPOSSIBLE!
YEAH... SOMETHING THAT BIG... SHOULDN'T FLY...

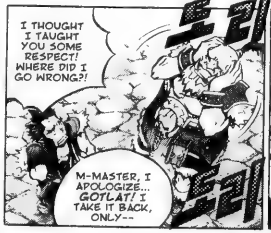
Episode 38
Gaiahon Revealed

BOOM

SORCERER...
...SORCERER CALLIUR?


STOP CALLING ME THAT! DO I LOOK LIKE A POMPOUS SISSY TO YOU?
CALL ME MASTER! MASTER!


M-MASTER CALLIUR... I DO NOT THINK NOW IS THE TIME TO DISCUSS SUCH--
WHAT?! ARE YOU SASSING BACK?! THINK YOU CAN GIVE ME GUFF NOW, IS THAT IT?!


I THOUGHT I TAUGHT YOU SOME RESPECT! WHERE DID I GO WRONG?!
M-MASTER, I APOLOGIZE... GOTLA?! I TAKE IT BACK, ONLY--

WIMP! NEVER BACK DOWN WHEN YOU BELIEVE IN SOMETHING!

...

KILL THEM ALL!!
RRAAAH!
HMM?
BAG KÂR. FOOLS.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA...
...WHO YOU ARE UP AGAINST!
WHA--?!
MASTER!!
YES?

HA HA! EASY AS BUTCHERING LAME CATTLE!
TO THINK, I WAS ALMOST AFRAID OF HIM!
MASTER CALLIUR!
PAY ATTENTION, UGDRASIL...
...I'M GOING TO TEACH YOU ANOTHER LESSON RIGHT NOW.

WATCH. SEE HOW THE WOUNDS DISAPPEAR AS I COLLECT THE ATTACK ENERGY?
I CALL THIS SPELL, "THE MANA FUELER." SEE?

THIS SPELL IS ESPECIALLY USEFUL AGAINST MOBS...
IT CONVERTS THE ENEMIES' ATTACK ENERGY...

...INTO THE MANA ENERGY USED IN SPELLS!
HEY, UM...
ISN'T HE... GONNA DIE?

NOW... WHY NOT USE...
...THAT FULLY CHARGED MANA POOL TO CAST...
...A MASSIVE AREA OF EFFECT SPELL BACK AT YOUR ATTACKERS?

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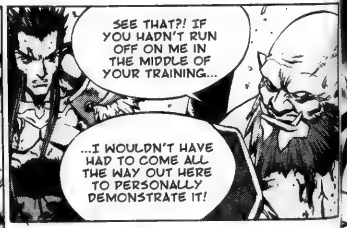
와아앙

COUGH!
COUGH!
IS THIS...?
...AM I...
NOT DEAD?


SEE THAT?! IF YOU HADN'T RUN OFF ON ME IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR TRAINING...
...I WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO COME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO PERSONALLY DEMONSTRATE IT!

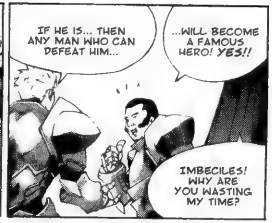
OH, LOOK. THE HUMANS' PARLOR HACK IS HERE...
...TO SHOW US SOME COIN TRICKS...

QUITE A WANTON SHOW OF POWER. LET US HOPE...
...NOT TOO MANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE IN THOSE BUILDINGS. DO YOU PLAN TO RAZE ALL OF ELKA?

...
YOU SOUND FAMILIAR...
HOW DO I KNOW YOU?

WHAT A MARVELOUS HONOR, THAT THE LIKES OF YOU RECOGNIZES ME.
I AM EWAN, ARCH-MAGE TO KING THADEUS II OF DULAN.
A PLEASURE TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, I AM SURE.
CALLIUR. HIGH ORC.
SUPREME LEADER OF THE HORDE.

LEADER... OF ALL THE ORCS?
...HIM?


IF HE IS... THEN ANY MAN WHO CAN DEFEAT HIM...
...WILL BECOME A FAMOUS HERO! YES!!
IMBECILES! WHY ARE YOU WASTING MY TIME?

WAH! L-LORD ERNAN!

HM? WHO IS THIS ONE?

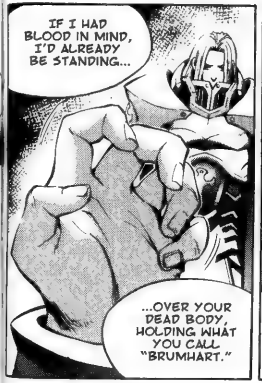
HE IS BIG...
SO THIS... IS WHAT A HIGH ORC LOOKS LIKE?
AND HIS STAFF! IS THAT... GAIAL-ION?!
THIS ORC HOLDS THE ARCHON OF EARTH!

I AM HEAD OF THE KING'S GUARD AND COMMANDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF DULAN!
BEFORE YOU STANDS THE RIGHTFUL HEIR OF BRUMHART, LORD ERNAN MANATH!!
RIGHTFUL?
KA HA HAR HAR!
AN ARMORED LILY LIKE YOU? "RIGHTFUL HEIR" OF BROO-HOO-HA-HA... WITH YOUR... HA-HA! ...RABBIT EYES??
HOO-HAA! WORDS FAIL ME!
YOU EX-PECT ME TO BELIEVE SUCH AN OBVIOUS LIE? HEE-HEE!

WHEN WAS IT, SIXTEEN YEARS AGO?
I WILL NEVER FORGET THAT BATTLE... NEVER FORGET...
THE ONE WHO SWUNG BRUMHART, CUTTING DOWN OUR HORDE LIKE BLADES OF GRASS!
AN ENEMY TO BE RESPECTED... HIS EYES BURNED LIKE A DEMON'S!
I REMEMBER THINKING HE COULD FIGHT US BY HIMSELF AND FEARING WE WOULD NOT STAND A CHANCE...
IN MY HEART, I THINK PART OF THE REASON I AGREED TO THE ARMISTICE WAS THAT MAN...

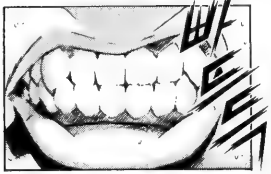
AND YOU CLAIM TO BE CUT OF THE SAME CLOTH?
THERE MUST BE A MISTAKE! YOU'RE THE SCRAPS SWEPT UP OFF THE FLOOR!
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A FAKE!

HMPH! NO NEED TO SOUND SO NERVOUS.
I'M NOT THE ONE WHO PICKED A FIGHT.


IF I HAD BLOOD IN MIND, I'D ALREADY BE STANDING...
...OVER YOUR DEAD BODY, HOLDING WHAT YOU CALL "BRUMHART."

BUT THE FUN AND GAMES CAN WAIT FOR NOW.

IN ONE YEAR, I WILL PASS ON MY ARCHON TO MY SUCCESSOR.
I WILL ALLOW...



I PLEAD FOR REASON! WE ARE IN A NEUTRAL ZONE!
THIS BATTLE BELONGS ON A BATTLEFIELD.

IF ONE ELKAN CIVILIAN WAS TO BE KILLED IN OUR CONFLICT...
...IT COULD LEAD TO DESTABILIZATION ALL ACROSS CHANTRA!

...YOUR SORRY LIFE TO CONTINUE UNTIL THAT TIME.

THE NEXT GENERATION WILL TAKE UP ARMS, THEN...

THERE, IN THE FINAL BATTLE...
...THE LAST BLOOD WILL FALL BETWEEN HUMANS AND ORCS!
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HUHHAH...
Your father...

ENOUGH ABOUT MY FATHER!
I DON'T CARE!
I DON'T WANT TO KNOW...
...ABOUT "DUTY TO REVENGE"!
NO, BEFORE THAT...

Episode 39
Reunions

I'M SUPPOSED TO SCAMPER AROUND GRINDING OUT POINTLESS MISSIONS... FOR WHAT?
DOES HE THINK I'M DUMB?
BULL...!
THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO WASTE MY LIFE ON THAT.
Take up the sword.
Once you rightfully wield Brambart according to its purpose...
...you can enter the path of a true master, unlocking its hidden power by—
HELL!
Your ancestors are calling down to you through the generations.
It is your destiny.
Heed your duty and you will control the boiling in your blood!

IT IS TRUE... MY SKILLS HAVE DEFINITELY INCREASED.
IT FELT GOOD...
...WHEN I FOUGHT THE BARON AT THE ALTAR.
WHY CAN'T I BE LIKE THAT MORE?

YOU'RE DEPRAVED!!

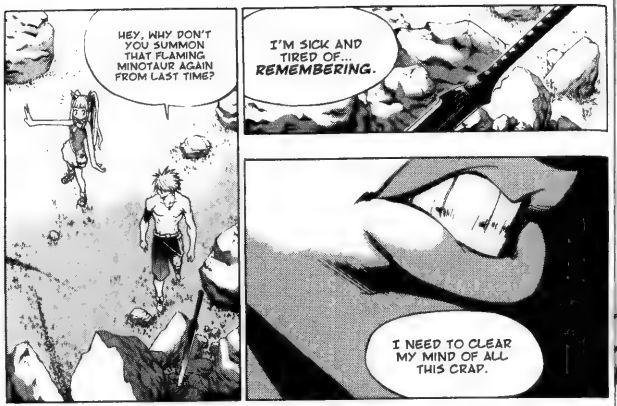
NO...
NEVER MIND THAT... WHY AM I...CRUD!

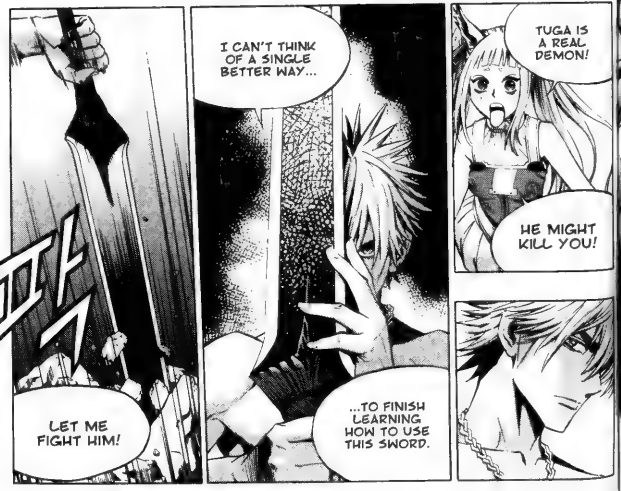
A MAGE MUST MAINTAIN A PURE HEART...
SO YOU CAN PEEK AT MY FIGURE? A LADY COULD NEVER DO THAT!

ACK!

YOU IDIOT!
DAMN! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?!
GAUGH! I... CAN'T BREATH!
CAN'T
WHAT'CHA DOIN'?!
LET'S PLAY!
...BREATH!!

AH! I-I'M SORRY... I DIDN'T MEAN TO--
YAY! THIS IS SO FUN!
MY TURN!
WHA--?!
CLOTHESLINE!
ACK!
I GIVE UP! I GIVE UP!
HA HA HA!
NAILED YA!
...

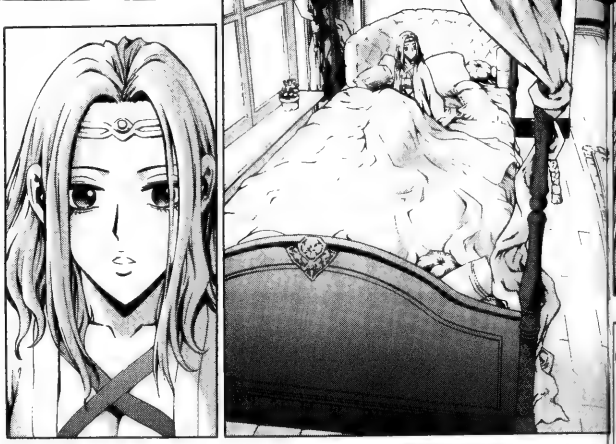

HEY, WHY DON'T YOU SUMMON THAT FLAMING MINOTAUR AGAIN FROM LAST TIME?
I'M SICK AND TIRED OF... REMEMBERING.
I NEED TO CLEAR MY MIND OF ALL THIS CRAP.


IF
LET ME FIGHT HIM!
I CAN'T THINK OF A SINGLE BETTER WAY...
...TO FINISH LEARNING HOW TO USE THIS SWORD.
TUGA IS A REAL DEMON!
HE MIGHT KILL YOU!

IF I DIE, I HAVE NO SKILL AND I SHOULDN'T BE OUT HERE ANYWAY!!
BUT DON'T COUNT ME OUT YET, HUH?
I HAVE TO FACE CH'ANTRA ON MY OWN.
I CAN'T KEEP RELYING ON OTHERS... LIKE HIM...
I WON'T ALLOW MYSELF THAT ANY-MORE!!
.....
AS YOU WISH...

WE FINALLY MEET AGAIN!
I HAVE BEEN LOOKING *EVERYWHERE* FOR YOU!
FROM GYPSY VILLAGES TO DESTROYED ALTARS...
...AND *ALL* THROUGH THE TAAS FOREST!
I GUESS MY HARD WORK IS FINALLY ABOUT TO PAY OFF.
YOU, GRANDFATHER...
...SHOULD PRACTICE WHAT YOU PREACH...

Your father was betrayed...
...ambushed and murdered...
...by Ernan Manafh and his henchmen...
NAIL...
NEVER MIND ABOUT YOUR PET DEMON MINOTAUR.
A BETTER DRILL DUMMY JUST SHOWED UP. IT'S ALL VERY CLEAR NOW.
.....
I'M BURNING TO PRACTICE!

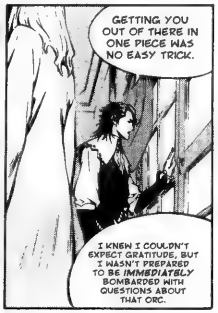


UGDRASIL! WHERE IS THE ORC, UGDRASIL?

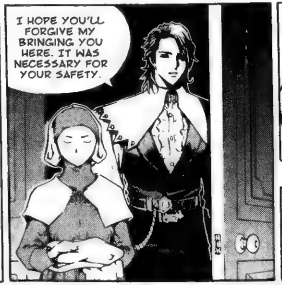
DO YOU FEEL BETTER?
I WAS A BIT WORRIED FOR AWHILE.

I DEMAND ANSWERS! WHERE IS UG...

SIGH... I ADMIT, IT DOES STING...


GETTING YOU OUT OF THERE IN ONE PIECE WAS NO EASY TRICK.
I KNEW I COULDN'T EXPECT GRATITUDE, BUT I WASN'T PREPARED TO BE IMMEDIATELY BOMBARDED WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT ORC.

YOU'RE AWAKE, LADY ARIN.

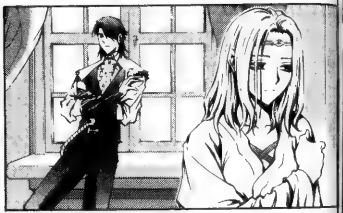

I HOPE YOU'LL FORGIVE MY BRINGING YOU HERE. IT WAS NECESSARY FOR YOUR SAFETY.

OH!

...

YOUR FRIEND, UGDRASIL, HAS CAUSED QUITE A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS.
NOT THE LEAST, SOLDIERS EVERYWHERE NOW KNOW YOUR FACE AND IDENTIFY YOU WITH HIM.

MAY I ASK HOW YOU CAME TO BE... COMPANIONS WITH THIS ORC?



OH... IF IT'S A PRIVATE MATTER, YOU'RE NOT OBLIGED TO ANSWER...
I WAS SIMPLY CURIOUS.

YOUR MAJESTY...
ARE YOU AWARE THAT ARMED HORSEMEN OF MEMBREDON, ANSWERING ONLY TO LORD ERNAN...
...HAVE REPEATEDLY TRESPASSED INTO ELAJENCE TERRITORY?

THAT... DOESN'T SOUND LIKELY... THE KING HONORS A PACT OF NON-AGGRESSION BETWEEN THE TWO--
THEN YOU CERTAINLY KNOW NOTHING OF ERNAN'S PERSONAL GUARD PERFORMING SECRET MISSIONS THROUGH TAAS FOREST.

WE OF ELAJENCE HAVE PETITIONED KING THADEUS WITH STRONG PROTEST AGAINST THESE ACTIONS...
HOWEVER, DULAN'S KING HAS TURNED A DEAF EAR TO US... HE SEEMS TO HAVE MORE REGARD FOR HIS FAVORED KNIGHT COMMANDER THAN CONCERN FOR A SMALL NATION'S OBJECTIONS.

...
MY FATHER DOES NOT FAVOR THE KNIGHT COMMANDER...

HE FEARS HIM.

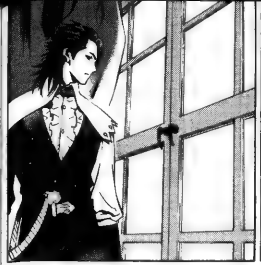
DULAN'S KNIGHT COMMANDER WIELDS A GREAT MILITARY POWER, A TRADITION GOING BACK TO NATHAN MANATH.
THE REASON FOR THAT, OF COURSE--

--IS THAT THE KNIGHT COMMANDER HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE BEARER OF BRUMHART?
AND THE NOBILITY OF THAT RESPONSIBILITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN PASSED DOWN WITH THE SWORD...

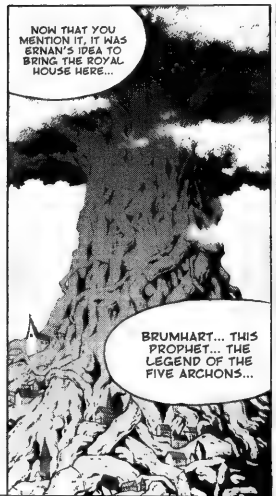
DO YOU BELIEVE THAT OTHER ARCHON WEAPONS SUCH AS BRUMHART EXIST?

DO I BELIEVE THOSE LEGENDS... ARE TRUE?
I TRAVELED ALL THE WAY HERE TO FIND THAT OUT--TO MEET WITH BEROUZE, A PROPHET WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE ARCHONS. UGDRASIL GUIDED ME HERE, SAVING MY LIFE SEVERAL TIMES ALONG THE WAY.

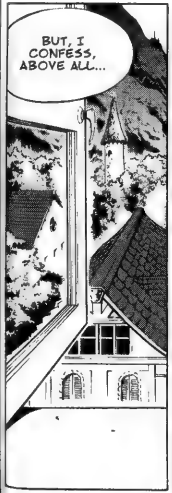
WE FINALLY FOUND BEROUZE, BUT WERE INTERRUPTED JUST AFTER WE GOT THERE... LORD ERNAN FOUND HIM, TOO.
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TOO MUCH OF A COINCIDENCE?


WOULD YOU REMAIN MY GUEST HERE FOR A WHILE, LADY ARIN?
YOUR GUEST?

AS LONG AS YOU'RE WITH ME, I CAN PROTECT YOU FROM DANGER.
AND, I SHARE YOUR INTEREST IN MANY OF THE ITEMS YOU'VE BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION.


NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, IT WAS ERNAN'S IDEA TO BRING THE ROYAL HOUSE HERE...
BRUMHART... THIS PROPHET... THE LEGEND OF THE FIVE ARCHONS...

WHAT IS ERNAN SCHEMING?


BUT, I CONFESS, ABOVE ALL...

SECOND CHANCES DON'T COME ALONG OFTEN.
I DON'T WANT TO MISS A SHOT AT WINNING OVER THE BEAUTIFUL SPITFIRE I WAS ONCE BETROTHED TO.

UHNG!
COUGH!
COUGH!
WHAT THE HELL...
...GOT INTO THAT GUY?
GUH!
GUH!

ISN'T DESTINY AMAZING?
NAIL! YOU KNEW THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN WHEN YOU CALLED US, DIDN'T YOU?!
YOU LITTLE--!!
YAAAWN ...
NOW, IT'S ABOUT TO GET *REEEALLY* INTERESTING...
THE BAD GUY IS ABOUT TO REVEAL HIS FULL STRENGTH!
OOH! HERE WE GO!
THIS IS THE REAL HIM, I GUESS?
YOU CAUGHT ME OFF-GUARD. I KNEW YOU HAD BRUMHART...
...BUT I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE THIS POWERFUL ALREADY.
I HAVEN'T HAD TO DO THIS IN A LONG TIME. NOW I WILL FIGHT YOU...
...IN MY TRUE FORM! *POLYMORPH!*
WOW. HE'S FROM THE STRONGEST RACE IN ALL CHANTRA...

Episode 40
End of the Road

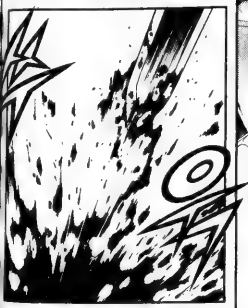
I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME...
...TO SEE BRUMHART UNSHEATHED.
I-IS THAT WHO I'VE BEEN CAMPING WITH?
HE IS THE IMMORTAL LORD OF THE TALON DRAGONS...
AND I THOUGHT ALL WAS LOST WHEN BRUMHART FELL THROUGH ERNAN'S MELTED FINGERS DEEP IN THE GNOME CAVE...
BUT HERE IT DANCES, IN A BOY'S HAND. WHO COULD HAVE GUESSED?
KING DIKAIN!
IT'S SUCH A RELIEF I DON'T HAVE TO PLAY STUPID HUMAN GAMES ANYMORE...
I CAN SPEAK PLAINLY: I'M JUST HERE FOR THE SWORD!
BRUMHART BELONGS TO A MASTER WHO TRULY UNDERSTANDS ITS POWER, AND WILL USE IT!
ON A THRONE IN ICY NORDENLAND SITS SUCH A MASTER, ONE WHO KNOWS IGNORANT HUMAN TREACHERY, FOR HE FELL BY ONE OF YOUR TWISTED PLOTS...

NOW...GIVE... ME...YOUR SWORD!
YOU TALK TOO MUCH.
RRAAAGH!
THIS CAN'T BE!
MY BODY... IS MIGHTIER THAN STEEL!
DORK. HA!
YOU'RE KINDA FUNNY!
PROFANE HUMAN!

I WILL TEACH YOU TO RESPECT A DRAGON'S WRATH!!
NO!! YOU CAN'T...!
NGAAAH!
YAAAH!

KRAAAH!
NOW FOR THE LAST, I'LL CUT OUT YOUR HEART!!
THEN I'LL MINCE YOU INTO HAMBURGER!

WHOA!



HUHH...
HUHH...
HU...
HUHH...
NGUH...

HEH HEH...
FUNNY THE WAY THINGS PLAY OUT...
MAYBE NO MORTAL CAN CHANGE DESTINY IN THE END.
YOUR FATHER'S NAME WAS LEON MANATH.
SIXTEEN YEARS AGO...
...I HELPED ASSASSINATE HIM.

RRUAH ...
HA HA HA HA!
YOU FELL FOR THE SAME BLUNDER AS THAT OLD CRACKPOT KENNETH!
A TALON DRAGON'S HEART IS IN A DIFFERENT PLACE THAN A HUMAN'S!

YOU BESTED ME TODAY, BUT I'LL BE BACK!

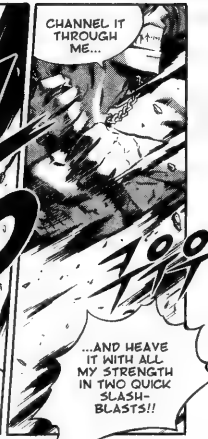
AND NEXT TIME, KING DIKAIN WILL BE WITH ME, TO CLAIM BRUMHART PERSONALLY!

THEN, YOU WILL BEG ON YOUR KNEES FOR OUR MERCY!!
FOR IN THE FINAL BATTLE...

...YOU WILL BE BROKEN...
...BY THE AWESOME POWER OF ALMIGHTY KING DIKAIN AND HIS OWN ARCHON!!

YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF ME!
FIRST STEP...

...GAUGE THE FLOW OF MANA BETWEEN MY FEET AND THE EARTH...
...THEN WILL IT TO IGNITE!


CHANNEL IT THROUGH ME...
...AND HEAVE IT WITH ALL MY STRENGTH IN TWO QUICK SLASH-BLASTS!!

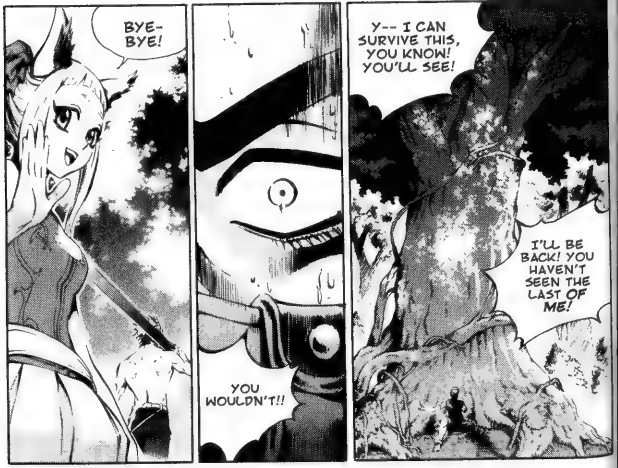
CROSS
OF
FUR Y!!
W-
WAIT
...
YOU'RE...
NOT
SUPPOS...

EW!
SEE? I TOLD YOU!
HE'S DEVELOPING QUICKER THAN YOU THOUGHT, SISTER GRACIA!
HEY, NAIL...
COME ON. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
THAT'S ENOUGH PRACTICE FOR ONE DAY.

WHAT?! WAIT!
YAY! LET'S GO!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO KILL ME?
I DIDN'T ASK FOR YOUR MERCY--
NONE WAS OFFERED...
YOU THINK I CAME HERE JUST TO FIGHT ROCKS AND TREES?
YOU REMEMBER THE LYCANTHROPES... DON'T YOU?
!
THIS IS THEIR HUNTING GROUND. I THOUGHT I MIGHT CUT UP A FEW...

BUT, SINCE YOU'RE HERE... OH, LOOK. THE SUN IS SETTING.
THEY'LL BE OUT SOON, SNIFFING FOR BLOOD... YOURS IS FRESH!
THEY DO LOVE LIVE MEAT. YOU'RE ABOUT TO BECOME A POPULAR CHARACTER!

AHWOOOOO!


BYE-BYE!
YOU WOULDN'T!!
Y-- I CAN SURVIVE THIS, YOU KNOW! YOU'LL SEE!
I'LL BE BACK! YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF ME!

...THE SACRED RUINS OF IRMA'S TEMPLE.

OF THIS, YOU SPOKE TRULY, LORD ERNAN...
...THIS IS INDEED... A SPOOKY PLACE.
THEY WILL SCOUT AND SECURE THE AREA BEFORE YOUR MAJESTY DOES ANY SIGHTSEEING THERE. I SUGGEST THE ROYAL PRINCE SHOULD LIKEWISE WAIT UNTIL SAFETY IS PROVEN.
WHO IS MOST SKILLED WITH HIS BOW IN DULAN? OR IN ALL OF MEMBREDON?
LOCALS BELIEVE THAT THE RUINS ABOUT IRMA'S TEMPLE ACTUALLY GENERATE UNCOUNTED HIGH-LEVEL MONSTERS. WE SHOULD SEND A FORCE OF KNIGHTS IN.
LEST MY PRIDE LEAD ME TO BOAST, I'LL SIMPLY SUGGEST THAT I MIGHT BE NUMBERED IN THE TOP TEN?
RECKLESS TOMFOOLERY!
HMPH...
WHAT DO YOU THINK, COMMANDER?
I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERN, FATHER, BUT MY INTEREST IN THIS EXPEDITION IS NOT MERE BRAVADO.
FOR MY OWN PART, YOU HAVE GIVEN ME THIS LOYAL CORPS OF PERSONAL GUARDS.
I, MORE THAN ANYONE AT YOUR SIDE, CARE ABOUT YOUR MAJESTY'S SAFETY AND SECURITY. BUT WHILE STUCK AT YOUR SIDE, I CAN DO LITTLE TO INSURE EITHER.
THEY WILL AID ME FIRST AND...LOOK AFTER COMMANDER ERNAN'S CONCERNS SECOND.
...

MY DEAR PRINCE, NO ONE WILL EVER FAULT YOU FOR LACKING YOUR OWN MIND.
DO AS YOU WILL--YOU WILL ANYWAY!
ENOUGH BUSINESS... BRING ME MORE WINE.
YOU'VE ALREADY HAD...
...YOUR USUAL AMOUNT, MAJESTY..
I SAID MORE! NOW!
OH, NEVER MIND. DRINKING DURING COURT BUSINESS ISN'T PROPER, IS IT?
BRING A JUG TO MY CHAMBERS. I'LL DRINK IT THERE.
UNFIT KING!

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU FOLLOWED ME, PRECOCIOUS YOUNG PRINCE, BUT...
...IF YOU GET IN THE WAY OF MY PLANS...
...ROYAL BLOOD WON'T SAVE YOU!!
휘이이이

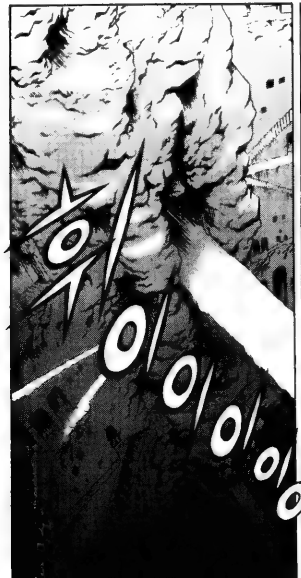
Episode 41
Cyripus

AAAIII!
...TULAN'S PROUD--
ARGH!
AH... AH...
H-HOLD STEADY, MEN!
W-WE'RE DONE FOR!
READY YOUR POWER ATTACKS! WE'LL TRY TO OUTFLANK HIM!
THERE'RE GHOULS EVERYWHERE!
G-GROSS!
DON'T RUN, YOU FOOLS! WE'RE...

H-HELP ME!!
!!

DISGRACEFUL! GET BACK INTO DEFENSE FORMATION!
YOU'RE FIGHTING LIKE A BUNCH OF BOYS!
P-PRINCE CERION!
COMMANDER ERNAN! LEAD YOUR KNIGHTS!
WHERE IS ERNAN?!
M-MAJESTY...
THAT'S... UM...

WE CANNOT FIND COMMANDER ERNAN. NOR THE ARCH-MAGE, EWAN.
!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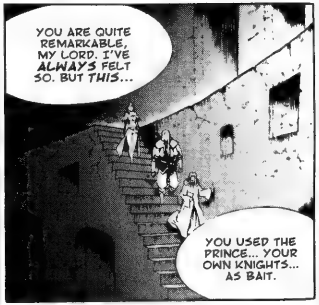
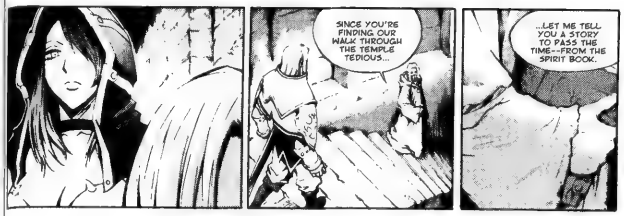
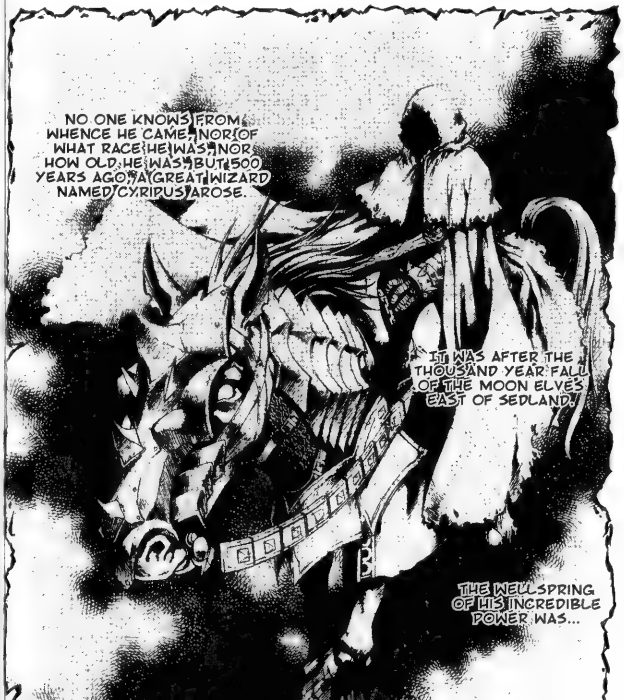

YOU ARE QUITE REMARKABLE, MY LORD. I'VE ALWAYS FELT SO. BUT THIS...
YOU USED THE PRINCE... YOUR OWN KNIGHTS... AS BAIT.

SHUT UP, EWAN! DON'T GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS, OR YOU WILL SOON JOIN THEIR FATE!
JUST HOW MUCH FARTHER DO WE HAVE TO GO DOWN?


SINCE YOU'RE FINDING OUR WALK THROUGH THE TEMPLE TEDIOUS...
...LET ME TELL YOU A STORY TO PASS THE TIME--FROM THE SPIRIT BOOK.

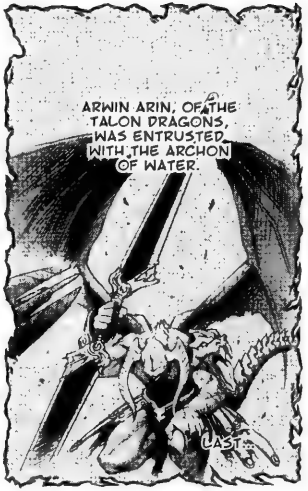

NO ONE KNOWS FROM WHENCE HE CAME NOR OF WHAT RACE HE WAS NOR HOW OLD. HE WAS BUT 500 YEARS AGO A GREAT WIZARD NAMED CYRIPUS AROSE.
IT WAS AFTER THE THOUSAND YEAR FALL OF THE MOON ELVES EAST OF SEDLAND.
THE WELLSPRING OF HIS INCREDIBLE POWER WAS...

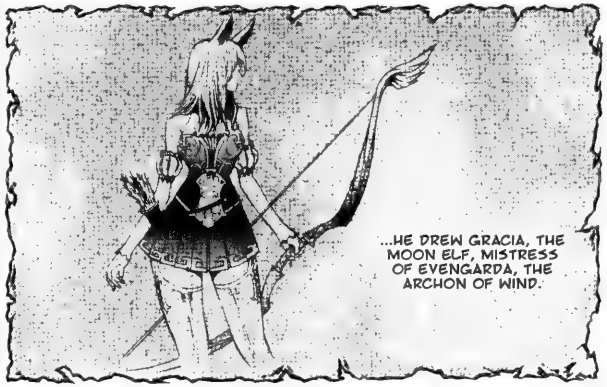
...THE ARCHON OF MAGIC...
THE CLARION!

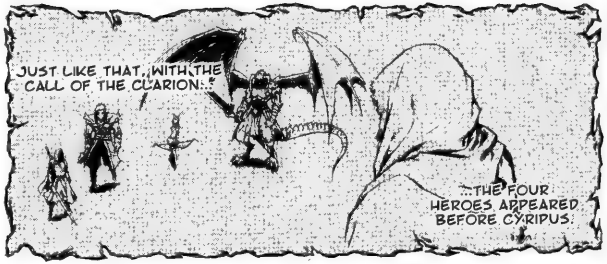
CYRIPUS USED THE CLARION...
...TO DRAW THE BEARERS OF THE OTHER FOUR ARCHONS.

THE MASTER OF THE ARCHON OF FIRE...
...WAS NATHAN MANATH, THE GREAT FATHER OF THE MANATH LINE.

THE ORCISH HERO WALCURE WIELDED GAIAHON, THE ARCHON OF EARTH.


ARWIN ARIN, OF THE TALON DRAGONS, WAS ENTRUSTED WITH THE ARCHON OF WATER.
LAST.

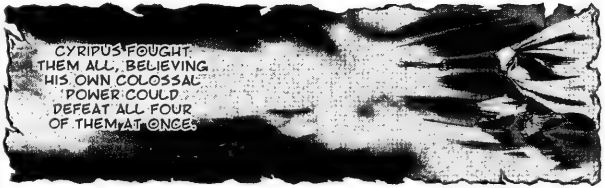

...HE DREW GRACIA, THE MOON ELF, MISTRESS OF EVENGARDA, THE ARCHON OF WIND.


JUST LIKE THAT, WITH THE CALL OF THE CLARION...
...THE FOUR HEROES APPEARED BEFORE CYRIPUS.

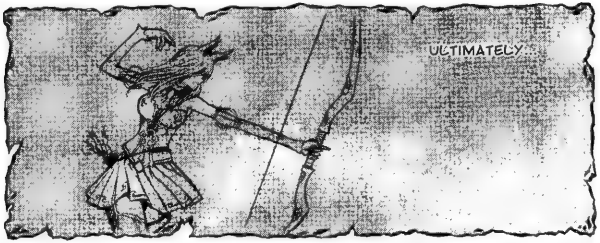
THE WIZARD DEMANDED THAT THEY HAND OVER THEIR ARCHONS TO HIM!

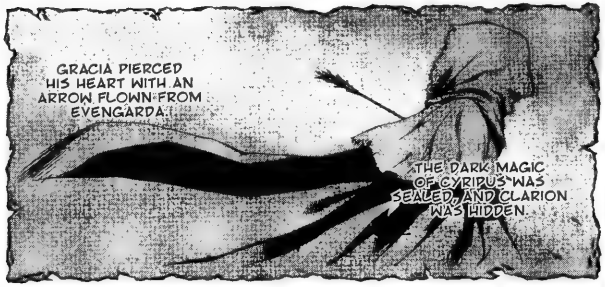
CYRIPUS SOUGHT TO UNITE THE FIVE ARCHON GEMS, AND BY THEIR POWER RULE ALL OF CHANTRA--AS ARCHLORD!
HE OFFERED TO MAKE THE FOUR HEROES HIS LIEUTENANTS, ON CONDITION OF THEIR ABSOLUTE SUBMISSION TO HIM.

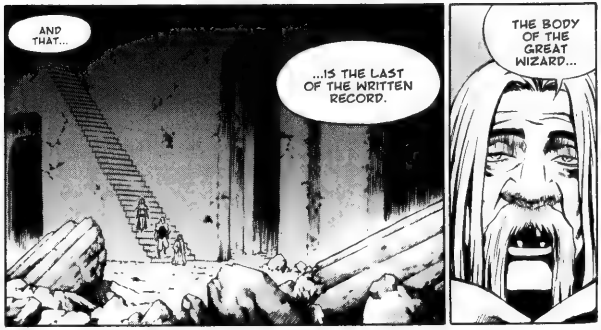
AS ANYONE WOULD EXPECT, THEY REFUSED.


CYRIPUS FOUGHT THEM ALL, BELIEVING HIS OWN COLOSSAL POWER COULD DEFEAT ALL FOUR OF THEM AT ONCE.

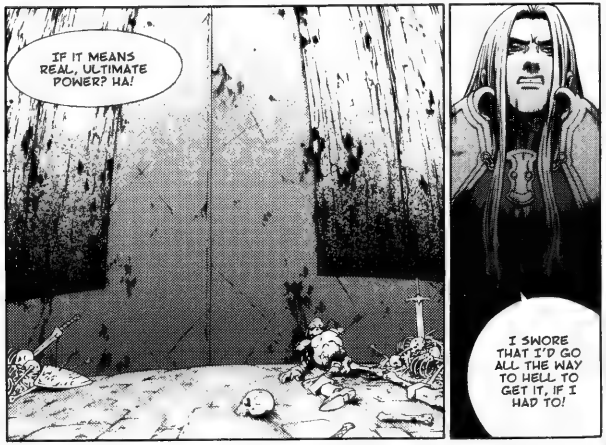
BUT AS EXCELLENT A MAGE AS HE WAS, HE COULD NOT OVERCOME THE COMBINED CAPABILITY OF FOUR HEROES WIELDING THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS IN THE WORLD.


ULTIMATELY...


GRACIA PIERCED HIS HEART WITH AN ARROW FLOWN FROM EVENGARDA.
THE DARK MAGIC OF CYRIUS WAS SEALED, AND CLARION WAS HIDDEN.


AND THAT...
...IS THE LAST OF THE WRITTEN RECORD.
THE BODY OF THE GREAT WIZARD...

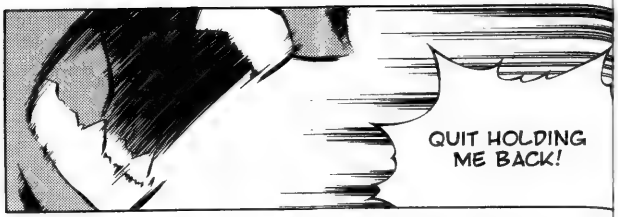
...HAS LAIN IN A DEEP SLUMBER FOR OVER 500 YEARS...
...IN A STONE TOMB GUARDED BY TWO KINGS.
ARE YOU *FULLY* PREPARED FOR WHAT MAY LIE AHEAD?


IF IT MEANS REAL, ULTIMATE POWER? HA!
I SWORE THAT I'D GO ALL THE WAY TO HELL TO GET IT, IF I HAD TO!

WE'RE GOING IN.
?
W-WAIT...
DAMN! IT'S TOO LATE! THE TRAP...
THE TWO KINGS GUARDING THE TOMB OF CYRIPUS...
...ARE UNDEAD! LICH KINGS!!

카아아아아아
카아아아아
쩌렁 쩌렁
WH-WHAT WAS...? WHAT WAS THAT UNEARTHLY SOUND?
WORSE...

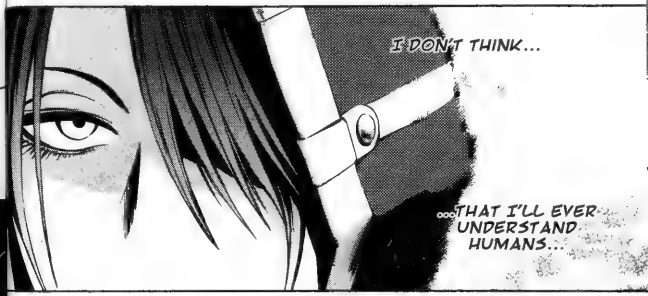
...THERE'S A TERRIBLE ENERGY! AND THAT PUTRID REEK!
카아아아아
AAH!
L-LORD ERNAN! WE CAN'T FIGHT THEM!
WE HAVE TO RUN! AH, TEMPORARILY... BUT RUN!!
KUH!


QUIT HOLDING ME BACK!

N-NO! IF YOU DIE, I-I'LL NEVER--

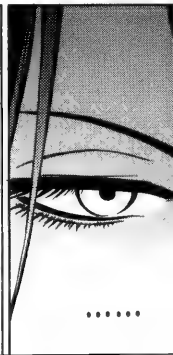
COME BACK!

I DON'T CARE IF IT'S LICH, GHOULS, OR THE DEVIL HIMSELF!!
ﾄﾞﾝﾎﾟ

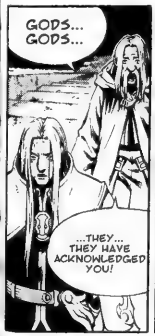

I DON'T THINK...
...THAT I'LL EVER UNDERSTAND HUMANS...

ABSOLUTE POWER IS RIGHT THROUGH THAT DOOR...
...AND NOW NOTHING CAN STOP ME BUT DEATH!

HOW CAN SUCH PASSIONATE DESIRE AND INDOMITABLE WILL SPRING FORTH...
FROM SUCH A WEAK MIND, CAGED IN SUCH A MORTAL BODY?


.....

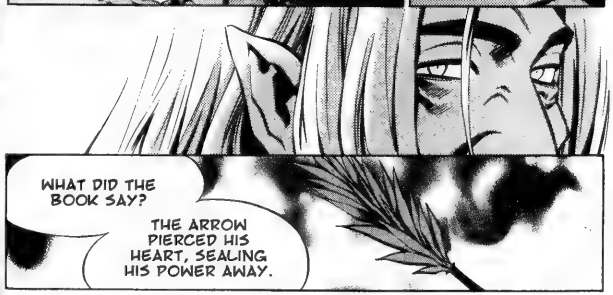
...THE POWER OF HUMAN WILL!



T-THERE... THERE HE SITS!
THE GREATEST WIZARD IN HISTORY! CYRIPUS!
HA...
HA HA HA HA!

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE... IT'S ALL TRUE... HE'S REALLY HERE!

I'M LOSING PATIENCE, EWAN. I DON'T SEE A WEAPON ANYWHERE! LET ALONE THIS ARCHON OF MAGIC!

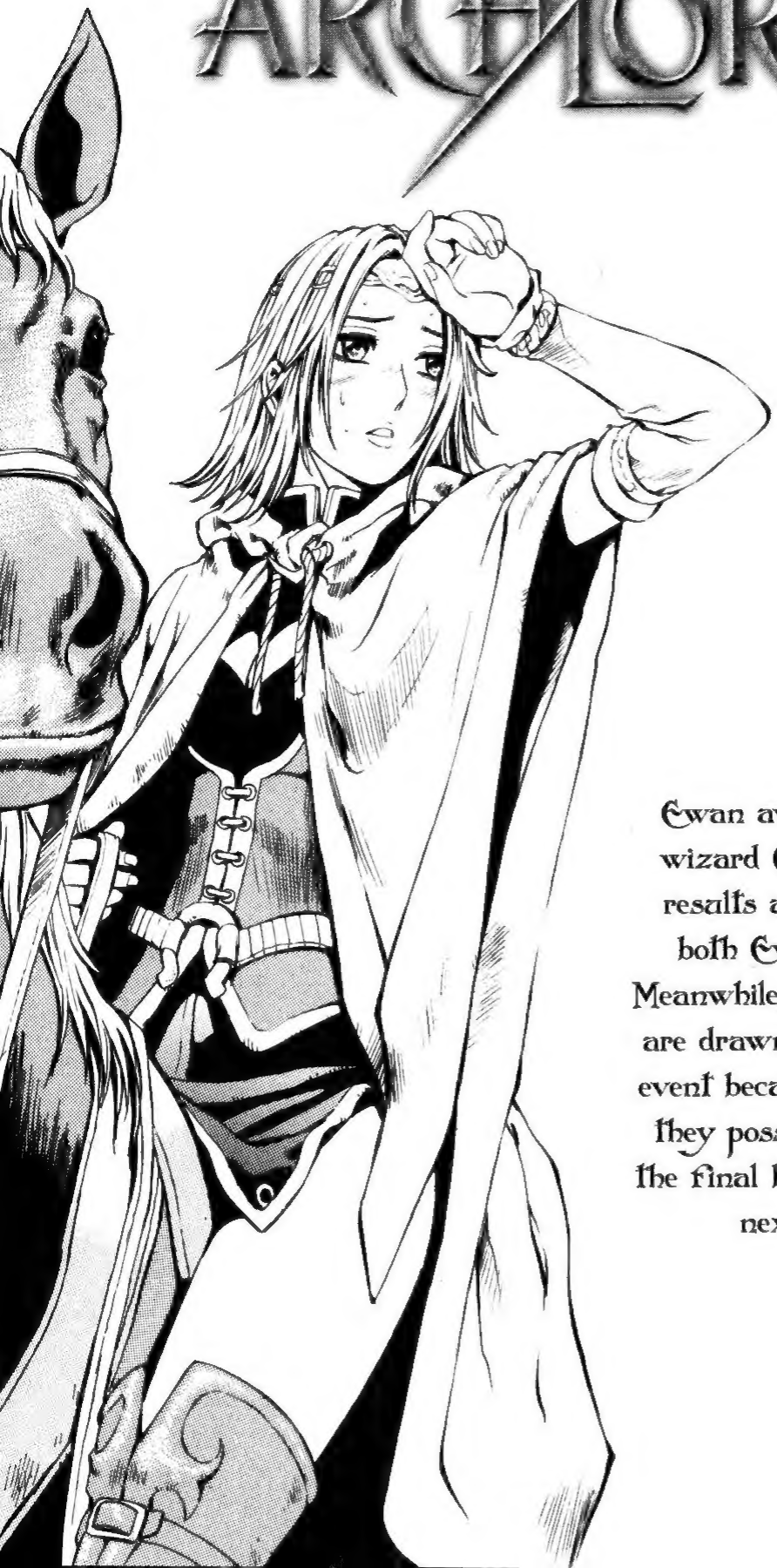

WHAT DID THE BOOK SAY?
THE ARROW PIERCED HIS HEART, SEALING HIS POWER AWAY.

I'M SO SORRY, ERNAN, BUT THERE'S NO ARCHON HERE!
IT'S HIDDEN, REMEMBER?
I CAME HERE TO UNLEASH CYRIPUS'S MAGIC ESSENCE!
ALL HIS ANCIENT SECRETS WILL BE MINE!
IT IS I WHO WILL UNLOCK THE ULTIMATE MAGIC! I WHO WILL BE ARCHLORD!
WHICH MEANS--
IF I JUST PULL THIS ARROW OUT, THE SEAL WILL BE UNDONE!
WHAT?!

To be continued···

In the Next Volume of

ARCHLORD



Ewan awakens the great wizard Cyripus, and the results are surprising for both Ewan and Ernan. Meanwhile, Zian and Ugdrasil are drawn towards this epic event because of the archons they possess. Who will win the final battle to become the next Archlord?